

## Department of Veterans Affairs

# Memorandum

Date:

From: Acting Assistant Secretary for Information and Technology (005)

Subj: Use of the Information Technology (IT) Systems Appropriation (EDMS# 351139).

To: See Addressees Below

1. The FY 2006 Military Construction and Veterans Affairs and Related Agencies Appropriation Act created a new IT appropriation for funding the acquisition/maintenance of non-pay IT items. The new IT Systems appropriation provides more direct control and visibility over VA IT funding and management at the project level.
2. VA has developed and will continue to develop project level funding estimates (noted in the OMB Exhibit 300s and the Exhibit 53) that comprise the project funding requirements for both the IT Systems appropriation and the support Non-IT appropriations. It is apparent that the types of items that can be funded using the IT Systems appropriation noted in these exhibits are inconsistent from Administration to Administration, project to project, and even within projects by location. To ensure that this new appropriation is used properly and consistently, we have prepared documents that define and list the items that can be acquired/maintained using the IT Systems appropriation, and the items that require the use of other appropriations.
3. The attachments were developed by a working group comprised of participants from across the Department, representing business needs and the needs of staff functions in the areas of IT, budget, finance, and accounting policy. The working group members met over a period of several weeks, discussing and debating the issues and the attachments are the products of their labor. Attachments 1 and 2 define what the IT Systems appropriation can and cannot be used to acquire/maintain. Attachment 1 is specific to VHA. The third document is a detailed workbook listing items that the IT Systems appropriation can and cannot be used to acquire/maintain. The fourth document is a workbook that identifies the working group membership that considered these issues.
4. Please review the attached documents and notify us of your organization's approval or issues that require resolution before your organization can approve. Please provide your responses to Ms. Jenifer Reece, IT Portfolio Management Service, by close of business, May 8, 2006.

5. If you have any questions regarding this memorandum or the attachments, please contact Mr. Leonard R. Bourget, Acting Director, IT Portfolio Management Service at 202-357-3940 or have a member of your staff contact Ms. Jenifer Reece at 202-357-3942.

/s/

Pedro Cadenas, Jr.

#### Attachments

#### Addressees:

General Counsel (02)  
Assistant Secretary for Management (004)  
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Budget (041)  
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Finance (047)  
Veterans Health Administration (10)  
Office of the Chief Financial Officer for VHA (17)  
VHA Office of Information (19)  
Veterans Benefits Administration (20)  
VBA Office of Information Management (20S)  
VBA Office of Resource Management (24)  
National Cemetery Administration (40)  
NCA Information Systems Service (41G)  
Inspector General (50)  
Associate Deputy Assistant Secretary for Enterprise Architecture Management (005E)  
Associate Deputy Assistant Secretary for e-Gov Records Management (005G)  
Associate Deputy Assistant Secretary for Information Technology Operations (005N)  
Associate Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy, Portfolio Oversight & Execution (005P)  
Associate Deputy Assistant Secretary for Cyber & Information Security (005S)  
Shyshka, Jeff L, Organization Transition Advisor to the CIO (005)